

White Rock Christian Academy

Admissions Policy

General Statement

The mission of White Rock Christian Academy is to Cultivate and Inspire Citizens of Godly Character Who Transform Their World for Christ. No school can accomplish this mission alone; however, the mission can be accomplished if there is harmony between the goals of the school and those of the home. WRCA exists to assist Christian parents in the fulfilment of their Biblical mandate to "train up children in the way they should go." It is not the goal of the school to replace the home or to solve academic or behavioural problems related to characteristics of the home.

The task of the WRCA school community is to educate and equip children of Christian parents for a life of service in God's kingdom. We acknowledge God as the source of truth and wisdom as revealed by his word and creation. Your children's intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual development is given unity, direction and balance within an atmosphere of personal concern for each other in the spirit of God's law and love.

Christian education is a substantial financial commitment and needs your full prayer support. May God bless you as you become part of the group of families that is committed to Christian education. WRCA is here to serve you – helping to bring you and your family closer to our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Policies

A. Interviews

An administrator will interview ALL parents who have not previously enrolled students in WRCA. The potential new student(s) must also attend this interview and be interviewed by an administrator. In order to be considered for admission to WRCA, the interview will establish and confirm:

1. the school's intent to help children become responsible disciples of Jesus Christ in today's society;
2. the commitment of the parents and student(s) to a Christian lifestyle and their active involvement in a local church community. Part of the evaluation of commitment to a Christian lifestyle will be determined by review of a current pastoral reference letter, which must be provided by each family applying for admission to WRCA;
3. the sincere desire of parents for their children to benefit from a Christian atmosphere and a program of Christian instruction;
4. the parents' acknowledgement that they and their children will submit to all school policies;
5. the parents' commitment to work through established communication channels to resolve problems, should any arise;
6. the parents' willingness to accept the financial responsibility to pay tuition and other fees;
7. the parents' agreement to attend the school's parent meetings; and
8. the student's desire to attend White Rock Christian Academy.

The administrator may contact the principal of the student's previous school(s), and the family's or student's pastor, as well as the references listed by the parent(s). The Administration and the

Admissions Committee must approve all admissions applications. Acceptance or rejection of applicants will be by written notice.

B. Parental Support/Involvement

Parents must display a sincere interest in the nature, purpose, and programs of WRCA and a genuine desire that their children receive the benefits of a Christian program of instruction. Parents must accept and fully support that the education their child will receive is in full harmony with both the Bible and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. Parents must support the purpose, philosophy and programs of WRCA by:

1. signing a Statement of Faith and a Philosophy of Christian Education to indicate their agreement with these fundamentals of WRCA;
2. completing and signing the student application form indicating they have read, understood and are in agreement with the Student Handbook of White Rock Christian Academy;
3. attending orientation evenings undertaken to acquaint parents with the operation of WRCA and its governing society;
4. joining and working in co-operation with other parents through WRCA's various parents' organizations or committees;
5. accepting responsibility for conferences with teachers and students when the situation warrants; and
6. continually fulfilling all financial obligations to WRCA.

Parents must confirm the following statements:

1. At least one parent and the applicant(s) regularly attend a Bible-based Christian Church which is in agreement with the fundamentals of faith of WRCA as stated in its Statement of Faith;
2. At least one parent in this family is a born-again Christian. In the case of one-parent homes, the custodial parent is a born-again Christian;
3. Our family desires a distinctively Biblical Christian Education and is committed to working with other families in "training up our children in the way they should go";
4. We/I accept the Bible as the infallible Word of God;
5. We/I actively practise our/my Christian confession in the home (through such means as family devotions, prayer, Bible reading, etc.);
6. Our family is prepared to commit itself financially to the costs associated with sending our child(ren) to WRCA;
7. All children in our family, during their time of attendance at WRCA, will reside with at least one parent or legal guardian (WRCA must be supplied with a copy of the Legal Guardianship Agreement);
8. We, the parents and the children who desire to enroll, are Canadian citizens or have Landed Immigrant status; and
9. The parents (at least one) will attend the two orientation meetings as part of the requirement for membership to the White Rock Christian Academy Society.

C. Student Support/Conduct

Students must be willing to support the school by agreeing to:

1. adhere to the standard of conduct of WRCA as outlined in the Student Handbook or elsewhere; and
2. demonstrate their commitment to those standards and regulations by action and conduct in and out of school.

The Board, upon recommendation of the Admissions Committee or Principal, may refuse to admit, re-enrol or re-admit a student with disciplinary or psychological issues.

WRCA reserves the right to expel a student whose conduct consistently conflicts with the student's commitment to conduct himself or herself in accordance with C 1 and 2 above. The Board makes final decisions concerning expulsion.

D. Enrolment

White Rock Christian Academy welcomes students from various Christian backgrounds. Families applying for admission must realize that because of its roots in orthodox, evangelical Christianity, WRCA maintains certain standards, values and beliefs which cannot be compromised. Therefore, WRCA may refuse admission to any family or student who has demonstrated either behaviour that is not in compliance with the Bible or attitudes which are judged to be potentially detrimental to the goals of the school.

Students not living with their parents are required to have written confirmation of a guardian's appointment.

Kindergarten and Grade 1 children must have reached five (5) and six (6) years of age respectively by December 31 in the year of enrolment.

If a student's conduct record in another school, when received in official documents, does not meet WRCA's standards, the student will not be permitted to remain in the school beyond the probation period. Such a student, however, may reapply for the next school year and will be considered for admission upon presentation of a satisfactory behavioral record. An applicant must submit records from the previous school attended before a final decision on that student's application can be made.

A student convicted in a court of law may not apply for admittance until providing evidence of profound behavioral change. The evidence must consist of three letters of reference; one from a church pastor, one from a teacher, and one from a responsible member of the community who is not related to the applicant.

E. Priority List

Preference in admission will be given to families displaying a total commitment to both Christian education and a Christian lifestyle. Applications will be given consideration in the following order:

1. Students presently enrolled;

2. Families with students presently in the school (Teachers and staff who apply for admission of their first child will be considered to already be part of the school family, and will have the priority accorded a school family);
3. Students who, or whose parent(s), regularly attend a charismatic Christian church, or students who, or whose parent(s), regularly attend an evangelical Christian church and have experienced the infilling of the Holy Spirit as evidenced by the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit including the charismatic gifts enumerated in I Corinthians 12 – 14;
4. Children of White Rock Christian Academy alumni;
5. Families with prior involvement in other Christian Schools, particularly member schools of the Society of Christian Schools in B.C. and Association of Christian Schools International;
6. Other applicants.

WRCA may also take into consideration class size, number of children in the prospective family and the need of the student (i.e., who would be most helped by attending a Christian school). Should a particular class be full, students who have gone through the registration procedure will be placed on a waiting list. WRCA is not obligated to inform a family what number its child occupies on a waiting list. Parents will be informed immediately if a space comes available from the waiting list.

F. Academic Considerations

While believing that Christian Education should be available to all the children of Christian parents, WRCA realizes that its resources are limited. Therefore, students will only be accepted when it is determined that WRCA can meet their educational needs.

The principal will review the report cards of all students whose parents are seeking to enroll their children in WRCA. If an interview or report card reveals that the potential student has academic, social or other difficulties and the principal determines that WRCA does not have the personnel or program to handle a student's particular difficulty, WRCA has the right to deny admittance to such a student.

The principal has the authority to determine the grade placement of each student enrolling or re-enrolling in the school (see also 2B below).

G. Re-enrolment

If it is evident that a family or student is unable to fulfill the expectations and obligations as outlined above, the Administration may decide not to accept re-enrolment of the student for the following school year.

If educational or discipline issues exist at the time of re-enrolment, the Administration may impose a probationary period for a student to determine whether the school is able to properly provide ongoing education. Probationary terms will be considered on a case by case basis.

If a family's re-enrolment is at risk, the Administration will meet with the family and discuss its concerns. After such meeting, the Administration must see evidence that the family is addressing the concerns raised and attempting to make the desired changes. If the concerns remain and in the opinion

of the Administration insufficient evidence exists that the family is addressing the concerns, the Administration will inform the family that the re-enrolment has been declined. WRCA will make every effort to give the family sufficient time to find another school. Depending on the circumstances, this procedure may apply to a single student within a family or to all students from that family, as the case may warrant.

Returning students may be interviewed and re-enrolled upon such terms as the Administration deems appropriate.

Routine re-enrolment for the following school year will be granted to all students who have favorable recommendations from WRCA's professional teaching staff and whose families have met the financial requirements of the school. Furthermore, if WRCA requires a financial deposit, re-enrolment form or other requirements to be met in order to re-enroll a student, such requirements must be met or a family will lose its priority as to placement.

A student who has had significant behavioural difficulties in WRCA, as documented on report cards or by personal reports from teachers, will not be re-admitted to WRCA. A student who has been expelled from WRCA cannot re-apply for admittance until one full year after the expulsion occurred.

If the Administration feels that either the progress of the child(ren) or the support of the family has been questionable, it may recommend to the Board that the family not be re-enrolled. This recommendation will be made in writing to the Board with a copy to the family. If the family disagrees with the recommendation, the family may appeal in writing to the Board, whose decision is final.

Prior to the beginning of Grade 6 and Grade 10, a family must provide a new pastor's reference to re-enroll students in WRCA. Prior to re-admittance the parent(s) must confirm their commitment to carrying out the requirements set forth in section 1B above and each student must confirm their commitment to carry out the requirements set forth in section 1C above. The family's pastor must also confirm their on-going, active involvement in an evangelical Christian church by completing and returning to the school a Pastoral Reference Form.

2. Procedures

A. Probation

All new students are enrolled on a probationary basis until they have demonstrated acceptable and appropriate attitudes and actions. Normally this period of time will end after the first report card. At the end of the probationary term, the parents or guardians will be notified about the student's progress in the school. If, during the probationary term it is apparent that the school is unable to satisfactorily meet the needs (academic, behavioural, social, spiritual) of the student, s/he may be required to leave the school prior to the end of the probationary term.

When the trial period is completed, one of the following will occur:

- a. The trial period will end;

- b. Probation will be extended;
- c. The parents or guardians will be requested to transfer the student out of WRCA.

B. Testing

Since our curriculum is designed for average and above-average students, students whose academic background is greatly lacking may not be admitted. If admitted, the parents must arrange for the student to receive additional instruction in weak areas.

All new students entering Grade 1 and above may be required to take a placement test prior to final acceptance. This test enables the school to establish the level the student is working at in a number of key areas. The test may be waived at the discretion of the Administration. Grade placement will be determined from the tests, by the principal. Families will be notified of final placement as soon as possible after the student(s) has written the placement test.

Students who have not been in a regular day school previous to enrolling, or are from another country, may be required to take a series of placement and achievement tests.

C. Board/Admissions Committee

The Admissions Committee, in conjunction with the Administration, may make a final, binding decision regarding admissions or may present the admissions situation to the Board for its decision.

Any family who is refused admission by the Administrator or Admissions Committee may appeal the decision to the Board whose decision is final.